

He made us see ourselves, from a city with too much crime to today's D.C. with low crime and a big surplus. Only a combination of consummate professionalism and enduring affability could have covered so much quick-moving news without ever missing a beat.

Jim Vance brilliantly told our story throughout our first era of home rule. These years also encapsulated Jim Vance's service and now join his legacy with the District's own history.

SUPPORTING CARE CORPS

(Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to support the Care Corps Demonstration Act. As a caregiver myself, I know how tough a job it is and how critical it is that we support family caregivers and the paid direct care workforce.

But as our population continues to age, our country faces a critical shortage of caregivers. In 2010, there were seven potential caregivers for every person over the age of 80; by 2030, that ratio is projected to drop by almost half, to about 4 to 1. At the same time, our economy continues to feel the effect of the Great Recession, and many young people are unemployed or underemployed.

That is why I am introducing this bipartisan bill which creates a grant program that would place Care Corps volunteers in communities across the country to provide services that help seniors and individuals with disabilities remain independent. The program would help meet the need for more caregivers and provide opportunity in a growing career field by offering benefits and educational assistance to the volunteers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to quickly pass this important bill.

NO BORDER WALL

(Mr. O'ROURKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand against a proposal that we will vote on later this week to spend more than \$1.6 billion to build a wall that we don't need at our border with Mexico.

We have never had lower apprehensions coming from Mexico in my lifetime. We had 105 apprehensions per Border Patrol agent 10 years ago; last year, it was 25.

The border has never been safer. We have never spent more money—\$19.5 billion a year—and instead of putting this \$1.6 billion toward jobs or healthcare or reducing student loan debt, we are trying to solve a problem that we don't have in this country.

We need to instead look to the example of El Paso, Texas, one of the safest

cities in the United States. It is the safest not in spite of its connection with Mexico, not in spite of the fact that so many people whom I represent in that community were born in another country—most of them Mexico—but because of those things.

When we treat each other with respect, dignity, and compassion, we also create security, safety, and success. Mr. Speaker, that is the example that we should be following, not a \$1.6 billion investment in a wall that we don't need.

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FAILURE TO GOVERN: THE FIRST 6 MONTHS UNDER REPUBLICAN CONTROL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to anchor the CBC Special Order hour.

For the next 60 minutes, we have a chance to speak directly to the American people on issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

Led by our chair, CEDRIC RICHMOND from Louisiana, it is our duty, we feel, as the conscience of the Congress, to speak to all people in this hour on the issues that we deem are important and that our constituents have told us are important.

For this Special Order hour, we will spend this time to talk about Failure to Govern: The First 6 Months Under Republican Control.

President Trump's first 6 months have been defined by his often angry and personal tweets, his efforts to denigrate and undercut the multiple investigations into Russian influence in the 2016 election, and most importantly, the stalemated legislative battle to repeal and replace ObamaCare.

President Trump has signed dozens of executive actions and Presidential proclamations. Some have fared better than others. His travel ban plan, for instance, first caused chaos and was effectively shut down by a series of legal challenges. But the second effort, which also faced a flurry of lawsuits, was ultimately allowed to take effect on a limited basis by the Supreme Court.

In all, our President has signed 42 bills into law. But when it comes to big

ticket items, like infrastructure, tax reform, and a repeal and/or replacement of ObamaCare, President Trump is sitting on zero. With healthcare seemingly on ice, tax reform is expected to be the big challenge next on our agenda.

Budgets are about priorities, and this President's priorities are clear. His budget hollows out our economy, endangers working families all across this country, in my district of the Virgin Islands, and the other districts that we all represent.

The \$2.5 trillion in cuts to entitlement programs, which include \$192 billion to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, otherwise known as SNAP, and the \$800 billion to Medicaid, will devastate localities like the Virgin Islands and elsewhere, where one in five children are covered under Medicaid and one-fifth of our population receives SNAP benefits.

The President has a budget with massive cuts that would shred social safety nets and cripple longstanding governmental functions. This administration has created uncertainty in the Nation's healthcare system by sending inconsistent administrative signals and supporting legislation that could deprive millions of people of health insurance coverage, undermine Medicaid health support for low-income Americans, and give wealthy taxpayers a massive tax cut.

He has mismanaged the Federal Government by failing to fill top spots. He has expanded the policy of deporting dangerous and illegal aliens by including many people with minimal records, stable jobs, and American families.

Most recently, we saw this with the Secretary of Homeland Security ordering the 50,000-plus Haitians here under protective status, due to the devastating natural disasters in Haiti, to leave. These are decent, hardworking people who are sending money back home, supporting an economy which is faltering under collapse.

We have seen a reversal of decades of bipartisan cooperation in extending environmental preservation of national landmarks. He has hired foxes to watch the chicken coops by filling his administration with arch-conservatives, many with records opposing the very agencies with which they work, and curbing civil rights and environmental enforcement.

All of these things we have seen in these first 6 months, and we will hear more.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), to speak on behalf of what we have seen in these last 6 months.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands, who has demonstrated great leadership in leading these CBC Special Order hours. It is not an easy task, but she has done remarkable work in terms of finding topics that are important to our communities and our Nation.